

ANACONDA Copper Company

555 Seventeenth Street
Denver, Colorado 80217
Telephone 303 575-4000

1186089 - R8 SDMS



October 22, 1980

RECEIVED

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WATER QUALITY
CONTROL DIVISION

Mr. Fred Matter, P. E., Chief
Monitoring & Enforcement Section
Water Quality Control Division
Colorado Department of Health
4210 East 11th Avenue
Denver, Colorado 80220

Re: Discharge from the Blaine Tunnel (outfall 001) NPDES Permit
No. CO-0029793

Dear Mr. Matter:

On the morning of October 17, 1980, we became aware of a discharge originating from the Blaine Tunnel. The estimated flow was 25 GPM. The discharge was not sampled.

A discharge from the Blaine Tunnel is authorized by our NPDES permit, however, this discharge point has not been used for some time. The mine water which would be discharged from the Blaine Tunnel is diverted underground and joins the mine water leaving the mine complex via the St. Louis Tunnel.

On the day of the discharge, the ditch used to convey the Blaine Tunnel water into the St. Louis Tunnel was found to be blocked by some pieces of old mine timber. This ditch was cleared and the water rerouted by about 4:00 P.M. on October 17, 1980.

Since we do not plan to reactivate the Blaine Tunnel discharge, we will inspect this ditch more frequently.

If any further information is needed, please advise.

Very truly yours,

John R. Whyte
Projects Manager, Exploration